



Lion's Lake Reflections by Deb Gruhlke, Mankato



Daddy's Little Stars by Michelle Starkey, Mankato



Fun at the Frank by Lacy Wilkens, Mankato

# Quality Neighborhoods



## Nuisance and Rental Hotline

Call the Nuisance and Rental Complaint Line at 387-8617 to report neighborhood livability issues, including:

- ◆ Over occupancy of rental units
- ◆ Concerns about the safety of rental units
- ◆ Renting without license complaints
- ◆ Inoperable vehicles or parking on lawns
- ◆ Refuse containers left on curbs
- ◆ Junk or refuse complaints
- ◆ Long or unkempt lawns or lots

When contacting city staff, please leave a name, phone number and address for any follow-up questions.

## Important Phone Numbers

Public Safety  
(Emergency and Non-emergency Service).....911

Public Safety Neighborhood Support  
Community Policing Office.....387-8722

Public Safety Records.....387-8700

Public Nuisance, Refuse and Rental Line....387-8617



Intergovernmental Center  
10 Civic Center Plaza  
Mankato, MN 56001

[www.ci.mankato.mn.us](http://www.ci.mankato.mn.us)

## Inoperable/Junk Vehicles

Inoperable vehicles that are not currently licensed or are incapable of being operated may not be stored on any street, public or private property unless they are kept in an enclosed building or approved structure.

To report a violation, contact the Nuisance and Refuse Line at 387-8617.

## Refuse and Recycling Containers

Place city refuse and recycling containers at the curb for weekly pickup no earlier than 6 p.m. the day before collection. Remove them by noon the day after collection. This helps keep streets uncluttered.

Residents must have sufficient containers to store all refuse accumulated between collections. These containers should be watertight, have a tight-fitting lid, be resistant to insects, rodents, vermin and moisture, and shall not exceed the size of the container either supplied or approved by the city for refuse collection. Containers should not be stored in the front yard, public right-of-way or on sidewalks because they can pose a safety hazard.

To report a refuse and/or recycling container violation, call the Nuisance and Refuse Line at 387-8617.

## Refuse and Yard Maintenance

- ◆ Accumulation of refuse such as vehicle parts, tires, scrap lumber, construction materials, old appliances, furniture, leaves and branches in your yard violates nuisance codes.
- ◆ No furniture designed for indoor use can be placed in a yard or unenclosed porch.
- ◆ Weeds and grass cannot exceed 12 inches or allowed to go to seed in yards.
- ◆ Noxious weeds and brush piles are prohibited.

To report a violation, contact the Nuisance and Refuse Line at 387-8617.

## Neighborhood Parking

- ◆ Vehicles can be parked in the same place on the city streets for a maximum of 24 hours
- ◆ Streets are for public use and vehicles can be parked in any legal parking place along them. It is not illegal for someone to park in front of your house, although everyone is urged to be courteous and not take their neighbor's parking places.
- ◆ It is illegal to block driveways and sidewalks at any time (including your own). Park vehicles four feet from driveway entrances.
- ◆ Vehicles must be parked facing the correct direction.
- ◆ Vehicles may not be parked on front or side yards at any time.

To report any of the above, contact 911.

## Snow Emergencies

During times of heavy snow or immediately following a large snow fall, a snow emergency may be called. While the snow emergency is in effect no parking is allowed on city streets. Vehicles left on the street during a snow emergency may be ticketed and towed.

For all the latest about snow emergencies, call the 24-Hour Snow Emergency Line at 387-9001. Sign up for *City News Online* at [www.ci.mankato.mn.us](http://www.ci.mankato.mn.us).

## Graffiti Hotline

Report graffiti by calling 387-8610. It's important to clean up graffiti as soon as possible. National studies show that immediate removal is essential to preventing additional defacement. City code requires that property owners remove graffiti within 48 hours.







Relaxing at Sibley by Karin Ambros-Ward, Mankato

Night Vision of Mankato by Mandy Lamprecht, Mankato

Riverfront from Ramp by Rosemary Stam, Mankato

# Welcome to Mankato's Neighborhoods.

All citizens should enjoy their neighborhoods and homes, whether as a renter or owner. This brochure explains Mankato city codes and ordinances\* that affect visual appearances of its neighborhoods and presents the consequences of a violation and how to report violations. Codes and ordinances have been established to help maintain Mankato's quality of life. If you're interested in developing a neighborhood organization to preserve and protect the neighborhood you live in, call 387-8722 for information.



Byron & Lewis Streets  
by Tim Malone, Mankato



Blue Jean Brothers in the Backyard  
by Jen Prochaska, Mankato

## Public Nuisance Ordinances

Public nuisance ordinances were established to remedy chronic issues at properties. A property is considered a problem when city code violations occur on a regular basis that annoy or disturb others or create a hazard to public health and safety.

## Rental Properties

Property owners and agents are held accountable for their properties' appearance and tenants' behaviors through their rental licenses.

Property owners and local agents will be notified whenever police respond to the following:

- ◆ Conduct on licensed premises
- ◆ Unlawful assembly
- ◆ Presence at an unlawful assembly
- ◆ Disorderly conduct
- ◆ Disorderly house or place of public resort

(One strike against the rental license for each of these violations.)

- ◆ Refuse storage
  - Storage out of the container
  - Storage in container
- ◆ Junked motor vehicles
- ◆ Parking and storage of certain vehicles
- ◆ General landscaping and maintenance requirements

(Half strike against the rental license for each of these violations.)

A second strike at a rental property leads to a problem-solving conference held with the landlord and tenants to discuss what actions can be taken to alleviate the problem. A third strike results in a recommendation to the City Council that sanctions be taken against the rental license.

## Rental Housing Standards

Mankato has rental/dwelling unit standards for residential housing. Landlords are held responsible for certain basic elements including adequate heating, safe electrical systems, emergency exits and functional sanitation facilities, to name a few. City staff inspects all licensed rental properties every three years.

For more information or to request an inspection, contact Mankato's Rental Inspection office at 387-8617.

## Rental License Required

It is unlawful for any person (as the owner, manager or other person having control of a dwelling unit) to lease, rent, offer for rent or lease, or permit to be leased, rented or offered for rent or lease, or permit occupancy of any dwelling unit within the city without a rental license.

Before leasing, verify that the landlord holds a rental license for the property and the property is in good standing with the city. It is unlawful for any person to occupy a dwelling unit that is in violation of Rental Housing Code.

Violations may result in criminal citations, legal or administrative penalties and termination of utility services.

To report a rental license violation, call Mankato's Rental Inspection office at 387-8617.

## Rental Occupancy Limits

City zoning and rental codes determine the number of people allowed to live in a rental unit. Prior to leasing within Mankato, it's important to check with city staff to determine occupancy limits. Over occupancy of rental units creates unsafe living conditions.

If over occupancy is suspected, please call the Rental Complaint Line at 387-8617.

## Noise Limits

Noise or music typically heard beyond property lines is considered too loud. If loud noise or music persists, call 911. Upon arrival, police will determine if the level of noise is unreasonable based on the time of day, number of people and other factors. If the noise is unreasonable a written warning may be issued. This warning counts as a strike against the rental license and also gives the occupants notice that any further complaints may result in an arrest or citation.

## Animal Control Licenses

All dogs more than six months old are required to have a city dog license, which is available on the first floor of the Intergovernmental Center, 10 Civic Center Plaza.

## Leash/Chain Requirements

Dogs are required to be on a leash or chain when off of the owner's property. Pet owners who have lost a dog or cat should call 911 to list them as missing. Visit Mankato's lost pets page at [www.ci.mankato.mn.us/safety/lostpets](http://www.ci.mankato.mn.us/safety/lostpets) to see if your animal is in the Animal Impound. To have an animal (found or running at large) picked up, call 911.

To claim a dog or cat at the Animal Impound contact 387-8590 or [lostpets@city.mankato.mn.us](mailto:lostpets@city.mankato.mn.us).

## Barking

Dogs often bark when alone and their guardians may not be aware of this. If a dog is barking uncontrollably, call 911.

## Unshoveled Sidewalks

Sidewalks are required to be shoveled within 24 hours after a snowfall. Property owners will be charged if city staff must intervene to have sidewalks shoveled or applied with ice melt. It is illegal to shovel snow into city streets or property.

To report unshoveled sidewalks, call the Sidewalk Snow Removal Line at 387-8541.

\* A summary of the codes and ordinances is provided here. Exact language can be found online at [www.ci.mankato.mn.us](http://www.ci.mankato.mn.us) under Codes and Ordinances.